(c) The number of RPF personnel found to have connived in crime against Railway property and the number of those suspended|discharged from service during the last three years is as under:—

	1985	1986	1987	1988 (upto June)
(1) Total number of RPF staff found to have connived in thefts of Booked Consignments	57	41	41	6
(2) Total number of RPF staff suspended	37	26	31	5
(3) Total number of RPF staff discharged from service	30	12	12	—

(d) Yes, Sir.

After effects of Bhopal gas leakage

@1773. DR. R. K. PODDAR:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:
SHRI ASHIS SEN:
SHRI MOTURU MANU. MANTHA RAO:
SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:
SHRI M. A. BABY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to arrest the galloping death rate in Bhopal since the leakage of deadly MIC from the Union Carbide factory in December, 1984; and

(b) whether any study has been conducted about the effects of the said leakage on the human system; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) As per reports received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh, symptomatic treatment is being given to all cases of diseases through hospitals and dispensaries of the State Government, some of which having specialities and sophisticated modern diagnostic equipments. The State Government are running 4 hospitals, one Polyclinic, two diagnostic centres and 5 dispensaries in the gas affected area. There is a special 62 bedded MIC ward in Hamidia Hospital. Treatment is also being given at Hamidia Hospital and Sultania Ladies Hospital. Referral services are being provided by the Gandhi Medical College, Bhopal. In addition, the Indian Red Cross Society is running one diagnostic centre and 4 medical centres. One Eye Hospital is being run by Royal Commonwealth Society for Blind, U.K.

The Indian Council of Medical Research have initiated several research projects to assess the health gas-exposed persons in the short and long term. As part of these investigations, community clinics and additional facilities for diagnosis and treatment have been provided to Gandhi Medical College and J. N. Hospital at Bhopal.

(b) As per studies carried out by the Indian Council of Medical Research, lungs were the main target due to inhalation of the toxic gas. Pulmonary function tests carried out in the exposed population indicate that large number have evidence of alveolar and|or interstitial reaction

@Previously Unstarred Question 659, transferred from the 1st August, 1988.

resulting in decreased forced vital capacity. Acute reactions in the eyes have now subsided. However, persistent corneal opacities in the gas exposed population is found on slit lamp examination. Large numbers of the population have also suffered from a wide range of neurotic disorders. Studies carried out in mothers and children have revealed that there has been a high abortion rate in women who were exposed to the toxic gas during the first trimester of pregnancy.

Legislation for infant milkfoods

@1774. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to legislate for regulation of production, supply and distribution of infant milk foods and if so, by when; and

(b) whether implementation of the proposed Act is likely to be taken up at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. No time schedule has been proposed for legislation.

Encouragement to Private Sector in Tourism

1775. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the circumstances which compelled Government to encourage the private sector in tourism in a big way;

(b) whether it would adversely affect the services of work force numbering 10,000 in the India Tourism Development Corporation;

(c) what are the reasons for which wage revision for the employees of India Tourism Development Corporation and its Transport Division has not been made since March, 1973 and those in Hotels and Catering Establishments since June, 1986, respectively; and

(d) what are the reasons for which vacancies in India Tourism Development Corporation are not filled up by making regular appointments and for recruiting workers on daily wage basis?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Private sector plays a major role in development of tourism in the country. To attract more investment in tourism a package of incentives concessions has been offered to private sector by Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Wages of employees in ITDC Headquarters and its Transport Division are based on the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission A High Powered Committee (HPC) has been constituted to go into the revision of pay of such employees working in public sector undertakings including ITDC as are in receipt of Central Government D.A.

Interim Relief granted by HPC from time to time has been allowed to this category of ITDC employees. ITDC Hotels & Catering Establishment employees on Industrial DA Pattern have also been granted with effect from 1.1.1986 Interim Relief as in the case of all such public sector undertakings employees governed by Industrial DA Pattern, pending revision of their wages.

(d) Vacancies in the ITDC are filled based on business requirements and commercial viability. Only for

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@Previously Unstarred Question 1295, transferred from the 5th August, 1988.